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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/581,583	08/07/2000	Shinako Matsuyama	450101-02142	1141
20999	7590	08/16/2006	EXAMINER	
FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG 745 FIFTH AVENUE- 10TH FL. NEW YORK, NY 10151				TRAN, TONGOC
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER
		2134		

DATE MAILED: 08/16/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/581,583	MATSUYAMA ET AL.	
	Examiner Tongoc Tran	Art Unit 2134	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 July 2006.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 10-12 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 10-12 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after allowance or after an Office action under *Ex Parte Quayle*, 25 USPQ 74, 453 O.G. 213 (Comm'r Pat. 1935). Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, prosecution in this application has been reopened pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on July 7, 2006, 2006 has been entered. Claims 10-12 are pending.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 10-12 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claim 1, page 2, lines 2-3, the phrase "first key encrypted by a second key shared with another device and a decoding means". It is unclear what specific key is shared with the another device, the first key or the second key and whether another

device encompasses “a decoding means”. For the purpose of prosecuting, Examiner assumes the another device is shared with a second key and encompassing a decoding means

On page 2, lines 9-10, the claim recites “the transmitting means transmitting the encrypted first key and the temporary key...”. However, there is no indication where is the keys are transmitted to. For purpose of prosecuting, the Examiner assumes the keys are transmitted to the decoding means.

On page 3, lines 3-4, the claim recites “wherein the decoding means decodes the information with the first key...” There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. There is no where in the claim that recites the information is encrypted with the first key.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential structural cooperative relationships of elements, such omission amounting to a gap between the necessary structural connections. See MPEP § 2172.01. The omitted structural cooperative relationships are: The claim recites an information processing device comprising a first storage means comprising: a first authentication means, a first encrypting/decrypting means, transmitting means. It is unclear whether Applicant claims a software module that stores in the memory (storage means) and operates by the information processing device to authentication and performs encryption/decryption functions.

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 10-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Heer et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5999,629, hereinafter Heer) in view of Kuroda et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,421,779, hereinafter Kuroda).

In respect to claim 10, Heer discloses an information processing device comprising:

the first storage means for storing an encrypted first key encrypted by a second key shared with another device and a decoding means, the first storage means comprising:

generating a temporary key shared with the decoding means; first encrypting/decrypting means for decrypting the encrypted first key with the second key, and for encrypting the first key with the temporary key; and transmitting means for transmitting the encrypted first key and the temporary key (see col. 3, line 1-col. 4, line 30);

decoding means comprising:
receiving means for receiving the encrypted first key from the first storage means; and second encrypting/decrypting means for decrypting the encrypted first key wherein the decoding means decodes the information with the first key obtained by the second encrypting/decrypting means (see col. 3, line 1-col. 4, line 30).

Downs does not explicitly disclose but Kuroda discloses the first and second authentication means for authenticating the devices that share the keys (see Kuroda, col. 11, line 35-line 55). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teaching of Heer's information processing device with the teaching of Kuroda's authentication means to ensure the integrity of the received data (Kuroda, Abstract).

In respect to claims 11-12, the claimed limitations are method and computer-readable program claims that are substantially similar to claim 10. Therefore, claims 11-12 are rejected based on the similar rationale.

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tongoc Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-3843. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jacques Louis-Jacques can be reached on (571) 272-3962. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

TT

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